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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/706,601	11/12/2003	Matthew W. Poisson	BA0434C (NORT10-00363)	5855
33000	7590	12/03/2008	EXAMINER	
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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/706,601	<b>Applicant(s)</b> POISSON ET AL.
	<b>Examiner</b> DUYEN DOAN	<b>Art Unit</b> 2452

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED. (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 October 2008.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.      2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 21-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 21-38 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 12 November 2008 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/06/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **DETAILED ACTION**

This office action is in response to the submission filed on 10/27/2008. Claims 21-38 are amended for examination. Claims 1-20 were cancelled.

#### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments, see remark page 9, filed 10/27/2008 with respect to the IDS filed 5/3/2004 have been fully considered and are not persuasive. Applicant states that the NPL documents cited in the 5/3/2004 IDS were previously submitted in application number 09/285,558 which the instant application claims priority. However, the instant application and the priority application 09/285,558 are two separate applications, applicant still need to submit the two NPL documents in order for the examiner to consider them (See 37 CFR 1.98).

In response to applicant's argument with respect to the objection to the abstract, the newly submitted abstract have been fully considered and are persuasive, the objection to the abstract is withdrawn.

In response to applicant's argument with respect to the rejection under 35 U.S.C 101 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The previous rejections under 35 U.S.C are withdrawn.

In response to applicant's argument with respect to the rejections under 35 U.S.C 103(a) have been fully considered and are not persuasive. Applicant argued that the firewall in Antur is not the same as the claimed switch. Examiner respectfully disagrees, First, the basic function of the switch is to forward packets to port, Antur's firewall also

forwarding packet to port (see Antur col.4, lines 35-46). Secondly, the claimed switch supports VPN function, Antur's firewall also offering the VPN functions allowing the security between communications. Therefore, the firewall of Antur and the claimed switch is functionally the same.

***Information Disclosure Statement***

The information disclosure statement filed 5/3/2004, some of NPL documents are not considered, because copies of NPL documents are not submitted.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 21-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Antur et al (us 6,243,815) (hereinafter Antur) in view of Wallent et al (us 6,366,912) (hereinafter Wallent).

As regarding claim 21, Antur discloses accessing via internet, a web page generated by a web-server associated a switch offering virtual private network functions

(see Antur col.5, lines 42-80; col.7, lines 36-40, firewall supports VPN functions allow/not allow to access a particular website on the Internet).

Antur does not specifically disclose a graphical user interface configured to display at least one link.

Wallent teaches a graphical user interface configured to display at least one link (see col.7, lines 60-67 to col.8, lines 1-8, also see figure 6, interface display links).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include an interface with links of Wallent to the invention of Antur for the purpose of providing the network operator to configure the network security devices with ease.

As regarding claim 22, Antur-Wallent discloses the link comprises an HTTP (Hyper Text Transfer Protocol) link (see Wallent, figure 6, HTTP links).

As regarding claim 23, Antur-Wallent discloses a link to a web-page comprising information describing users of the virtual private network functions provided by the switch (see Antur col.4, lines 31-46, firewall offering security functions).

As regarding claim 24, Antur-Wallent discloses a link to a web page comprising information describing packet filters provided by the switch (see Antur col.4, lines 31-33).

As regarding claim 25, Antur-Wallent discloses a link to a web-page comprising information describing access hours of the switch (see Antur col.4, lines 31-46).

As regarding claim 26, Antur-Wallent discloses transmitting an HTTP request when a link is selected by a user (see Wallent figure 6); and accessing a web-page associated with the link in response to the HTTP request, the web-page comprising configuration information related to switch (see col.7, lines 60-67 to col.8, lines 1-8, also see figure 6). The same motivation was utilized in claim 21 applied equally well to claim 26.

As regarding claim 27, Antur-Wallent discloses modifying the configuration information of the switch via the accessed web-page (see Antur col.9, lines 45-53, change the configuration of the firewall).

As regarding claim 28, Antur-Wallent discloses transmitting an HTTP request when a link is selected by a user (see Wallent col.7, lines 60-67 to col.8, lines 1-8, also see figure 6). The same motivation was utilized in claim 21 applied equally well to claim 28.

As regarding claims 29-38, the limitations of claims 29-38 are similar to rejected claims 21-28, and therefore rejected for the same rationale. Antur further discloses a list of switches offering virtual private network functions (see Antur figure 6c, list of firewalls

which support VPN functions such as packet filtering, security). The processor and computer readable medium are inherent in the computer show in figure 3 of Antur.

***Conclusion***

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DUYEN DOAN whose telephone number is (571)272-4226. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Follansbee can be reached on 571 272 3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/D. D./  
Examiner, Art Unit 2452

/Kenny S Lin/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2452